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to mature age have made this author one of the best interpreters of China to Europe and America. Moreover, the definiteness of his knowledge, the proved accuracy of so many of his past prophecies, and the way he has of getting light from inner circles of governmental officials, diplomatic agents, and revolutionary leaders, all combine now to give him prestige. The world long ago found out that he was not an admirer of Japan's political theories or methods, and, in addition, that he had no hesitation about denouncing the ethics and scoffing at the wisdom of the Western powers, including Great Britain and the United States, in their relations with both China and Japan. This candor and this loyalty to "the higher law" are shown in this volume. Hence it is not only interesting, it is invigorating. An ace is called an ace and a spade a spade. Lest the reader doubt the opinions as being too subjective, the text of documents, especially "secret treaties," is given, and also statistics showing the steady process of Occidental and Japanese exploitation of China's credit in return for banking, railway, and mining concessions. He is a Weale who leaves welts. His verbal lash falls on diplomats of the kind usually sent to Peking, on bankers who force loans at usurious rates on necessitous borrowers and on statesmen who make China and Korea victims of "commercialized imperialism," to quote his own phrase. As to his judgment on diplomats, it is well to note that he specifically exempts the recent American Minister, Prof. Paul Reinsch, from his indictment.

Mr. Weale demands justice for China and Korea, and also an Occidental policy toward Far Eastern nations that will favor the growth of the republicanism already rooted in China and that is beginning to appear in Japan. He exposes the rule-and-ruin policies of the militarist groups in both China and Japan, and shows how, by common action, they have checked the natural evolution of democracy that might have been expected with the overthrow of the Manchus and the formation of a republic in China. Of course, for a time the chief obstacle to this result was Yuan Shi Ki, who by conviction was a monarchist and by temperament always was for himself, and who vainly tried to become the head of a new line of monarchs. With his death Japan became the most active foe of Chinese republicanism, and by diplomacy and by bribes she has had considerable temporary success; but ultimately she will reap the whirlwind when the republicans of the South and the educated liberals of the North actually get control and China really functions as a democracy.

**British War Administration.** By *John A. Fairlie*, Oxford University Press, New York City. Pp. 302.

This is a systematic and somewhat comprehensive account of the administrative changes in the government of Great Britain and Ireland caused by the war; but it does not pretend to be inclusive or to cover the period of demobilization and reconstruction that has been entered upon since the armistice. It was produced to meet the immediate needs of persons who, either as administrators in American military and civilian ranks, were suddenly called upon to meet war conditions and responsibilities, or who, as journalists, teachers, and lawmakers were needing information that would enable them to educate the American public as to what the British had to teach the United States as the result of earlier participation in the war. Down to the close of the year 1917 the record is fairly complete. It is an example of a swiftly made hand-book, based on partial data, and meeting a contemporary demand creditably.

**Practical Pacifism and Its Adversaries.** By *Severin Nordentoft*. With an introduction by *G. K. Chesterton*. Frederick A. Stokes, New York City. Pp. 213. \$1.50, net.

Much, if not most, of this book by the distinguished Dane who is its author was written prior to the war; but as he has not altered his views substantially because of the vast conflict, his recommendations are of interest and have value as expressing the opinions of a publicist (and a physician) of a neutral nation. He stands for a positive and not a negative theory of pacifism in the future. Non-resistance is not his way out; it is a "peace of law" that he demands. Drawing his analogies from his own profession, he prefers an attack

on war in terms that are specific and not general, just as medical science attacks a disease and not disease. He also would get at causes rather than dwell exclusively on results. His motto is "*Persistente causa, persistente effectus*." To do away with wars based on economic ambitions and assumed or real needs he would usher in free trade.

Dr. Nordentoft has not been content with discussion of his theme in terms of the abstract or of aspiration merely. The reader will find him outlining in precise terms a scheme for a League of Peace, suggesting ways and means of general disarmament, and recommending tentative steps toward making the Hague a center for diplomatic discussion of issues between nations to be conducted by national representatives permanently stationed there. Such an arrangement, he believes, would afford indirect support to the Hague Conference and would form the beginning of an Interstatutory Congress, a beginning of the United States of Europe.

**President Wilson.** By *Daniel Halévy*. Translated from the French by *Hugh Stokes*. John Lane Co., New York. Pp. 283. \$1.50, net.

The limitations of comment upon an American personage which are almost inevitable in any Frenchman's "study" soon appear in this on the whole interesting and sincere "appreciation." It has about the same value that a study of Clemenceau would have if written by, let us say, Prof. William Lyon Phelps or by Prof. Brander Matthews. The French naturally have wanted to know something about the man who has loomed so large on their horizon during the war and during the peace conference; and this is one of many attempts to meet their desire. It obviously was hurriedly prepared and has no trace of study of the man other than by comparison of his own words and reading of other men's estimates of him. Of course the difficulty of making a book thus made have unity and finish is difficult. Naturally the academic and literary phases of Mr. Wilson's career appeal most to this cultivated Parisian, and here the *obiter dicta* of the author are worth while; he also deals discriminatingly with the service rendered to American education by Mr. Wilson when he was president of Princeton University.

**Open Gates to Russia.** By *Malcolm W. Davis*. Illustrated from photographs. Harper & Brothers, New York and London. Pp. 315. \$2.00.

Russia presents three outstanding facts of importance to us all: she is one of the world's main sources of raw materials; she is made up of an impressive population abundantly able to produce; and, in the language of William T. Goode, she "is at this moment the laboratory in which the greatest political experiment in the history of the world is being tried." We need to know this land, intimately, out of first-hand information. This book by Mr. Davis, formerly Assistant Editor of the *ADVOCATE OF PEACE*, is a sympathetic first-hand account of Russia, its immediate necessities, its enduring needs, and certain aspects of her perennial interest. While some parts of the book could be improved from a standpoint of coherence and clearness, especially in the earlier chapters, the clarity and importance of the treatment increase, especially following Chapter 3.

The author having been absent from America for approximately two years, is evidently feeling his way while addressing himself to America's attitude toward awakening Russia, and in a measure, also, while addressing himself to Russia and the world struggle; but he has carefully studied the reconstructive forces latent in that great land—a fact which appears patently in those chapters relating to the agrarian problem, to transportation, and to the Russian character. The thirst for education and social reconstruction are particularly illuminating and suggestive chapters. The reader interested in such questions as the failure of Kerensky, the future of the Bolsheviks, the fate of Siberia, the importance of the government at Omsk, will have to turn to other books; but the matters with which Mr. Davis does deal are of equal if not greater importance for us who are convinced of the injustice of the Churchills in England, and of American ignorance concerning this great land of the future.